discharging into the Najafgarh drain, extension of the sewrage system and pollution abatement of river Yamuna has been drawn up by the Delhi Administration. Out of the 38 drains outfalling into the Najafgarh drain, dry weather discharge of 31 drains has been traped and action is being taken to trap the remaining 7 drains in a phased manner. Another scheme has been drawn up to extend the sewrage system from the present level of about 60% to 80%. In addition, a scheme for pollution abatement of river Yaumna has been formulated which includes pollution abatement of Najafgarh drain also in the Delhi segment. These schemes are expected to be implemented during the Eighth Five Year Plan period.

Area of waste Lands in the Country

195. SHRI R. T. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total area of Waste lands in the country Statewise;

(b) whether Waste lands is increasing rapidly;

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(d) whether Government have formulated any scheme for development of such land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) A country-wise survey on State-by-State basis of the extent of wastelands and the rate at which these are increasing or decreasing has not been carried out. However, according to one estimate, the State-wise area of wastelands is as given in the Statement (*See* below)

(d) The Wastelands Development Programme, initiated in 1985, aims at checking land degradation, putting wastelands to sustainable use, incresing bio-mass availability, esecially fuelwood and fodder, and restoring the ecological balance.

Statement

Estimates of wastelands in India

(Area in lakh hectares)

States/UT	Total
Andhra Pradesh	114.16
Assam	17.30
Bihar	54.58
Gujarat	78.36
Haryana	24.78
Himachal Pradesh	19.58
Jammu and Kashmir	15.65
Karnataka	91.65
Kerala	12.79
Madhya Pradehsh	201.42
Maharashtra	144.01
Manipur	14.38
Meghalaya	19.18
Nagaland	13.86
Orissa	63.84

States/Ut	Total
Punjab	12.30
Rajasthan	199.34
Sikkim	2.81
Tamil Nadu	44.01
Tripura	9.73
Uttar Pradesh	80.61
West Bengal	25.36
UTs	36.04
Total	1295.74

N. B. The above estimate is not based on a country-wide survey of all wastelands in the country.

Green Area Ridge of Delhi

196. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that green area ridge in the capital has been encroached by CRPF without the official permission of the concerned authorities;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the CRPF are increasing its area by destroying green plants from the sites occupied by them;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what action Government have taken in the matter to protect the ridge from being encroached by Government gencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Central Reserve Police Force has established tents and certain semi-pucca structures in Central and South Central Ridge in the Capital.

(d) The concerned authorities, Delhi Development Authority and the Central Public Works Department have taken-up the matter with Ministry of Home Affairs and the Director General, Central Reserue Police Force, Government of India.

Forest Plan for Tribal Areas in the country

197. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any forest plan for tribal areas in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have consulted the Bihar Government in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (d) All the State Go-Governments have been advised to involve local people in afforestation of degraded forests and protection of Forests on usufruct sharing. Detailed/ guidelines have been issued by the Central Government to this effect. In addition, the Union Government proposes to launch in the VIIIth Five Year Plan a pilot scheme with 100% assistance to State Governments to take up projects in association with tribals and rural poor for regeneration of degraded forests on usufruct sharing basis.

National Pollution Control Policy

198. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state: